

ORIGINAL

FILED

12/08/2016

Ed Smith  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA  
Case Number: AF 09-0688

Clerk of the Montana  
Supreme Court  
PO Box 203003  
Helena, MT 59620-3003

December 7, 2016

Re. Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court:

You have called for public comment of the proposed new rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons:

Our Constitution under the First amendment offers each citizen freedom of religion and freedom of speech. Our freedom of religion is established as a guarantee that no portion of our government will attempt to regulate or control the individual's ability to freely practice their religion. We also have the right under the First Amendment an established right to speak out about what we believe. It is my opinion that this rule will clearly infringe on the rights of Christian attorneys in Montana to voice their personal religious views regarding the sanctity of marriage. It is for this reason, I urge you to reject this proposed Rule.

Sincerely,

Victoria L. Lombel  
Billings, MT

FILED

DEC 08 2016

Ed Smith  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

ORIGINAL

Clerk of the Montana Supreme Court  
P.O. Box 203003  
Helena, MT 59620-3003

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court;

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons.

Here in Montana we honor all of the Constitution; inclusive of Consider religious freedom, government overreach, freedom of speech and freedom of speech.

Signed,

Mrs. Julie Brantley  
W H Brantley

FILED

DEC 08 2016

Ed Smith  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

P.S. We are Christians; our Nation  
and State was founded upon Christian  
principles —

ORIGINAL

December 6, 2016

Clerk of the Mt. Supreme Ct  
P.O. Box 203033  
Helena, Mt. 59620

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons: It violates the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment of the Constitution. The rule would institute a repression spoken of by people who fled communist countries where they feared to express their opinions. It goes against every reason why this country was founded. The rule trades the religious oppression experienced in England (when we founded this country) for humanist oppression. The very consideration of this rule is evidence of bullying by the vocal minority of the LBGT lobby who want to force the majority to accept we find repugnant.

Sincerely,

*Michael J. Oord*

FILED

DEC 08 2016

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

ORIGINAL

December 5, 2016

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct Rule 8.4g

Honorable members of the Court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(cg) of the professional rules of Conduct for MT attorneys. As a

concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject **FILED** rule for the following reason: **DEC 08 2016**

**Ed Smith**  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA  
You would be adopting a discriminatory position against those who believe marriage is for one man and one woman. The natural world testifies to this basic truth.

No biological offspring come from same sex relationships & Supporting this twisted perversion is unnatural. Romans 1 details this perversion plainly. While God offers forgiveness for this behavior, no other group of people in our society is asking for protection like the gay community. Adulterers do not ask for protection. Drunkards do not ask for protections, nor fornicators....

My point is this, stop making this lifestyle a protected class of people  
Signed, John Cunn

ORIGINAL

December 6, 2016

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

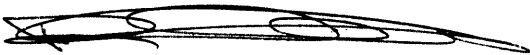
Honorable Members of the Court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons:

1. This is a huge infringement on the freedom of speech.
2. I understand that, in our state, religious freedom is something we all cherish. To be for or against a particular moral issue should not be just cause for serving our state. This seems prejudicial at the least.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rick Gillis, PhD

Bozeman, MT

FILED

DEC 08 2016

*Ed Smith*

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

ORIGINAL

FILED

DEC 08 2016

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

Montana Supreme Court,

Dec 5, 2016

Please preserve the free speech of  
every citizen of Montana. Reject Rule  
8.4(g) because it creates different classes  
of citizens - those with freedom of speech and  
those without, taking us back into the Dark  
Ages when some people were more important than  
others. We are a nation based on the principle  
that ALL ARE CREATED EQUAL.

Thankyou, Amylyn Kellogg Anaconda MT

RE: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

I understand there is a period for public comment on the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule. I believe this is suppression of free speech. I also believe this is a continuation of attacks on religious freedoms our great nation was founded on.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to voice an opinion

*Dan Pilon*

**FILED**

DEC 08 2016

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA



ORIGINAL

5 December 2016

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

It has just now come to my attention that you have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned Montana citizen, I hereby submit my request that you *reject this rule* for the following reasons.

I firmly believe this rule is an egregious government overreach and unconstitutionally restricts the religious and/or moral freedom of attorneys. It also infringes deeply on their freedom of speech. A severe rule such as this only builds inroads to broaden these restrictions to the populace in the future.

Respectfully,

Pat Goede

Bozeman, MT

FILED

DEC 03 2016

Ed Smith

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

ORIGINAL

Clerk of the Montana Supreme Court

Re: Professional Rules of conduct, Rule 8.4 (g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

You have called for public comment on the proposed new Rule 8.4 (g) of the Professional Rule of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule or the following reasons.

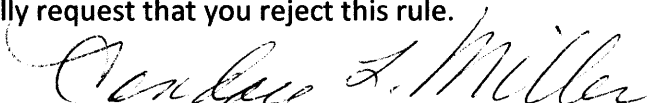
This ruling seems to prejudge or assume the motive and intention of the advocate before he even speaks. This appears to be a prejudice on the part of the court and does not reflect the many centuries we have enjoyed of an equitable, prudent, and balanced Court system. It seems to target one group of Americans and forbid their freedom of conscience and defense. The U. S. Constitution as well as our State Constitution is for the protection of all.

This new ruling appears to be an immediate gag order on the advocate of the traditional client or defendant. In addition, by perceiving discrimination from the bench on one particular phrase or comment seems to be reverse discrimination. This does not seem to echo innocent until proven guilty.

If the accused must defer to the whim and despite of their accuser, and silently submit their rights and conscience, how can this be deemed equitable, prudent or constitutional, or just, let alone due process? It comes across as judicial prejudice and preference.

Again, I respectfully request that you reject this rule.

Candace Miller



23 Willow Bend Dr. North

Billings, MT 59102

FILED

DEC 08 2016

CLERK OF THE  
MONTANA SUPREME COURT  
BILLINGS, MONTANA

ORIGINAL

RE: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons:

Such a rule would be an overreach of government, limiting freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, and religious freedom and leading away from the freedoms and liberties upon which this nation and state were founded toward a dictatorial manner of governance. Having worked in countries where one's speech must be constantly kept in check in order to avoid retaliation or punishment of the government or even one's neighbor, I can say from experience that this is not a direction, which will uphold the values of the people of Montana. We are a strong and independent people. Mandating what speech is or is not acceptable does not fall in line with our character.

Sincerely,

*Rachel A. Miller*  
Rachel Miller  
Billings, MT

FILED

DEC 08 2016

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

ORIGINAL

Dec 3, 2016

Clerk of the Montana Supreme Court  
P.O. Box 203003  
Helena, MT 59620-3003

Honorable Members of the Court,

I'm writing regarding Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g). Although I understand the intent of this rule, I believe it could result in some destructive consequences. I therefore ask that you reject this new rule for the following reasons...

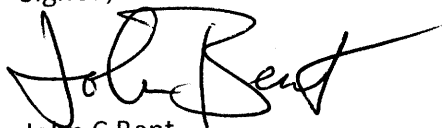
Though I'm sure this is not the intent, I believe adoption of this rule will restrict Montana lawyers from their Constitutional right to freedom of speech. It will undermine the right of particular American citizens (lawyers) to hold and express their own moral and religious beliefs about particular behaviors. The right to hold and express moral disagreement on certain social issues should not be labeled a "hate crime".

Hard on the tails of this is the threat to religious freedom. The Constitution guarantees "freedom of religion" not "freedom from religion". There is no such thing as freedom from religion, life, opinions, world view, behavior is never religion-neutral. Every viewpoint, every behavior is derived and rooted in a particular religious point of view. This rule has the potential to discipline lawyers for associating themselves with all but one particular "religious" albeit secular, point of view.

It is even being said that the point of this rule is to assist the Court in *shifting the culture* to support the integrity of all people. Since when is the purpose of the Court to promote social engineering? If that is the case, then our historic understanding of the rule of law no longer exists and we are at the mercy of the whims of political correctness – which historically has always ended in oligarchy and eventually anarchy.

I understood the practice of law to be about the securing of justice for all people under the law, not social engineering for the sake of promoting a "progressive" shift in our culture. Thank you for consideration of my concerns and for your hard work, I realize you don't have an easy job.

Signed,



John C Bent  
Senior Pastor  
Christ Lutheran Church  
Whitefish, MT 59937

FILED

DEC 08 2016

Ed Smith  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

ORIGINAL

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4

Honorable members of the court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new rule 8.4 (g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons:

- This is a vast overreach of our government.
- This threatens our very freedoms of free speech that we are proud of in this country.
- This also greatly threatens the religious freedom our country is so beautifully known for.

Please consider these, and many other, very important reasons why this should be prohibited from moving forward. Thank you.

Signed,

X  \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

FILED

DEC 08 2015

CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT  
JANUARY OF MONTANA

ORIGINAL

December 5, 2016

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons.

I strongly oppose this because it goes against all moral principles, religious freedom, and is an overreach of the government. Marriage between a man and a woman has been the definition of a marriage since time began.

Yes, I'm a Christian, and this country was founded on Judeo-Christian teachings and morals. There has been a continual assault on our society against family values and traditional beliefs. It needs to stop!

Signed,

*Donna Martin*

Donna Martin  
Registered Voter

FILED

DEC 08 2016

*Ed Smith*

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

ORIGINAL

December 6, 2016

Clerk of the Mt. Supreme Ct  
P.O. Box 203033  
Helena, Mt. 59620

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons: It violates the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment of the Constitution. The rule would institute a repression spoken of by people who fled communist countries where they feared to express their opinions. It goes against every reason why this country was founded. The rule trades the religious oppression experienced in England (when we founded this country) for humanist oppression. The very consideration of this rule is evidence of bullying by the vocal minority of the LBGT lobby who want to force the majority to accept we find repugnant.

Sincerely,

Beverly Oard

FILED

DEC 08 2016

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

ORIGINAL

12-3-16

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct of Montana Attorneys. As concerned citizens, we hereby submit our request that you "reject" this rule for the following reasons: our religious freedoms, freedom of speech, and government over-reach.

Thank you for your consideration of our view point.

Sincerely,

Tom Rummel  
Tom Rummel

Shelly Rummel  
Shelly Rummel

3 Benson Lane  
Plains, MT 59859

**FILED**

DEC 03 2016

Ed Smith  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA



ORIGINAL

December 5, 2016

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a concerned citizen, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons.

I strongly oppose this because it goes against all moral principles, religious freedom, and is an overreach of the government. Marriage between a man and a woman has been the definition of a marriage since time began.

Yes, I'm a Christian, and this country was founded on Judeo-Christian teachings and morals. There has been a continual assault on our society against family values and traditional beliefs. It needs to stop!

Signed,



Virgil J. Martin  
Registered voter

**FILED**

DEC 08 2016

*T. J. Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

Matt Regier

1701 Bluestone Dr. #A  
Kalispell, MT 59901

December 4, 2016

Clerk of the Montana Supreme Court  
P.O. Box 203003  
Helena, MT 59620-3003

Re: Professional Rules of Conduct, Rule 8.4(g)

Honorable Members of the Court,

You have called for public comment of the proposed new Rule 8.4(g) of the Professional Rules of Conduct for Montana Attorneys. As a Representative elect for House District #4, I hereby submit my request that you reject this rule for the following reasons.

Discrimination is wrong. For the court to elevate one set of behaviors over someones ability to verbalize their beliefs/values/convictions is discrimination. By adding sexual orientation and gender identity you are elevating one behavior over Montana lawyer's liberty to disagree.

The second reason to reject this rule is the application being used to interject this discrimination into a profession. This is legislation. NDO's have been brought before our elected leaders in the past and representation of the people of Montana have said no. This is outside our system of rule and the way our state government was set up to operate.

On these two grounds this rule needs to be rejected.

Signed,



Matt Regier  
House District #4

**FILED**

DEC 08 2016

*Ed Smith*  
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

# ORIGINAL

December 8, 2016

Ms. Tara Messner

Student of Valley Christian School

2525 Sunset Lane

Missoula, MT 59804

## FILED

DEC 08 2016

*Ed Smith*

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

Dear Honorable Ed Smith:

I believe strongly that "8.4(g)" would be a great deterrent to our state and our natural freedoms. Americans are guaranteed the freedom of speech; it is clearly stated in the constitution of our country. America has always taken great pride in the fact that we are one of the few countries that have this freedom. By instating "8.4(g)" it would take away freedom of speech of our lawyers. This law change would redefine marriage and completely wipe away the standard of marriage.

Thank you for considering the impact of your decision for all citizens of Montana.

Sincerely,

Tara Messner